

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of mitigating the effects of introgression of a genetically engineered genetic trait of a crop to a weed and of mitigating a weedy potential of the crop, the method comprising the step of producing apomictic seeds of said crop of a type which give rise to male sterile crop plants to thereby prevent introgression of the genetically engineered genetic trait of said crop to said weed and to reduce the weedy potential of the crop.

2. A method of mitigating the effects of introgression of a genetically engineered genetic trait of a crop to a weed and of mitigating a weedy potential of the crop, the method comprising the step of controlling the expression of the genetically engineered genetic trait in the crop by at least one control element which is inexpressible by the weed.

3. A genetic construct for genetically modifying a crop to express a genetically engineered genetic trait while mitigating the effects of introgression of the genetically engineered genetic trait of the crop to a weed, the genetic construct comprising a first nucleic acid segment encoding for said genetic trait and at least one additional nucleic acid segment including at least one control element which is expressible by the crop, yet which is inexpressible by the weed.

4. A method of mitigating the effects of introgression of a genetically engineered first genetic trait of a crop to a weed and of mitigating a weedy potential of the crop, the method comprising the step of co-engineering at least one copy of a genetically linked second genetic trait in said crop, said second genetic trait being innocuous or somewhat valuable to the crop yet deleterious to the weed.

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5. A genetic construct for genetically modifying a crop to express a genetically engineered first genetic trait while mitigating the effects of introgression of the genetically engineered first genetic trait of the crop to a weed, the genetic construct comprising a first nucleic acid segment encoding for said first genetic trait and at least one additional nucleic acid segment encoding a second genetic trait, said second genetic trait being innocuous or somewhat valuable to the crop yet deleterious to the weed.

6. The method or construct according to claims 4 or 5, respectively, wherein said second genetic trait is of abolished secondary dormancy.

7. The method or construct according to claims 4 or 5, respectively, wherein said second genetic trait is of uniform or delayed ripening.

8. The method or construct according to claims 4 or 5, respectively, wherein said second genetic trait is of anti-shattering.

9. The method or construct according to claims 4 or 5, respectively, wherein said second genetic trait is of dwarfism.

10. The method or construct according to claims 4 or 5, respectively, wherein said second genetic trait is selected from the group consisting of seed stalk bolting, seed coat defects that facilitate uniform germination, root storage promotion, biennial growth and non-flowering.

11. A method of mitigating the effects of introgression of a genetically engineered genetic trait of a crop to a weed, the method comprising the step of cytogenetically selecting for or producing genetically engineered crop plants in which a gene or genes responsible for the genetic trait are

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genetically linked to an endogenous genetic trait of said crop, said endogenous genetic trait being deleterious to the weed.

12. A genetically modified crop comprising the genetic construct of claim 3 or 5.

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